C L A I M S

1. A tensioner (2) for a belt (10) of a drive (1) of a motor vehicle, comprising: at least two idle pulleys (15, 16) designed to co-operate with respective belt runs (32, 34) of said belt (10); two arms (13, 14) bearing said pulleys (15, 16); and elastic means (17) acting at least indirectly on said arms (13, 14) for tensioning said belt (10), said tensioner being characterized in that said arms (13, 14) are constrained to one another and in that at least one of said arms (13, 14) is hinged about a first mobile axis (C).

2. The tensioner according to Claim 1, characterized in that said first axis (C) is carried by a mobile element (12).

3. The tensioner according to Claim 2, characterized in that said elastic means (17) are carried by said mobile element (12).

4. The tensioner according to Claim 2 or Claim 3, characterized in that said mobile element (12) is hinged about a second fixed axis (A).

5. The tensioner according to any one of the preceding claims, characterized in that both of said arms (13, 14) are hinged to said first axis (C).

6. The tensioner according to any one of Claims 2 to 4, characterized in that said mobile element (12) is rigidly connected to one of said arms (13, 14).

7. The tensioner according to any one of Claims 2 to 5, characterized in that said elastic means (17) co-operate with one of said arms (13, 14) and with said mobile

element (12).

8. The tensioner according to any one of Claims 1 to 6, characterized in that said elastic means (17) act between said arms (13, 14).

9. The tensioner according to any one of the preceding claims, characterized in that it comprises arrest elements (42, 43) co-operating with said arms (13, 14) for limiting opening of said arms (13, 14) with respect to one another.